

Remarks

Claims 1-15, 17-21, and 24-29 remain in the application.

The Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement between:

- I. Claims 1-10 and 24-26;
- II. Claims 11-18;
- III. Claims 19-21; and
- IV. Claims 22-23.

The claims of Group IV have been canceled.

Applicants elect with traverse the invention of Group I comprising Claims 1-10 and 24-26 subject to the following comments.

Applicants believe that the inventions of Groups I, II, and III are best commonly classified in either 359/124 or its subclass 359/128 and should therefore be commonly examined.

Furthermore, the restriction in Claim 8 to a substrate was erroneous, unassociated with any other element of the claim, and inconsistent with its dependent Claim 10. Claim 8 has been amended to remove the restriction. A new base Claim 27 has been added which also generalizes from Claim 1 in that a single substrate is not required as well as generalizing from the arrayed waveguide gratings. If the Examiner does not accept the consideration of Claims 1-10, 24-26, and 27-29, Applicants elect instead the invention of Claims 27-29, which is generic to Claim 1. Further, Claim 19 is a linking claim to Claim 1.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be helpful, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number, which is on California time.

Respectfully submitted,



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